# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1954
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2002
ARREARS OF ELECTRICITY AND COAL AGAINST PSUS .
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI

**Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) an apex body of the public undertakings has requested to the Government to give the adequate powers to the electricity and coal undertakings for the recovery of arrears;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and (

(c) the arrears of electricity and coal related public undertakings outstanding against States and others as on date?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

( DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a) to (c): The Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) had submitted a Memorandum on Economic Policy Issues fo Union Budget 2002 to the Finance Minister wherein it was, inter-alia, emphasized that the hands of the PSUs should be strengthened to augment the country`s energy programme. One of the suggestions made was that the PSUs may be helped to recover their dues from the State entities, which are, of the order of Rs. 25,000 crores or more as estimated by SCOPE.

As mentioned in Finance Minister`s Budget Speech, restoration of financial viability in the Power Sector remains crucial. The high level empowered group of Chief Ministers and UnionMinisters has agreed to a one time settlement scheme in regard to State Electricity Boards` (SEB) over dues to the Central Public Sector utilities through securitisation and issue of tax freebonds by the respective State Governments subject to the achievement of specified performance milestones and full payment of current dues in the future.